

July 22, 2002

To: Federal Communications Commission

RE: Request for Waiver  
Funding Commitment Decision Letter (June 17, 2002)

Form 471 Application Numbers 330449  
Billed Entity Number 107466

Funding Request Number 89946, 892947, 892948 and 892949

Contact Information: Linda Lamont, P.O. Box 47, Raymond, CA 93653, 559-689-3336, FAX 559-689-3203,  
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Dear Federal Communication Commission:

We are requesting a waiver for the Raymond Knowles Elementary School. The request is for Year 2002. Our Funding was denied due to the Deadline for filing the Form 471 application was submitted prior to the expiration of the 28-day waiting period from the day of the posting of the Form 470 to the SLD website.

We agree the Form 471 was filed before the 28-day waiting period had expired. This was due to the deadline for filing the Form 471. Our school Experienced some major staff changes and it was discovered that the Form 470 hadn't been filed, this was corrected immediately. Unfortunately, Due to the deadlines, it would not be posted on the SLD website a full 28 days.

There are extenuating circumstances that would make the 28 days simply a formality.

1. Our telecommunications services: We are situated in a rural area that is served by one telephone company, Sierra Telephone. There is no choice. The larger telephone companies have not expanded into our area. Therefore all tar riffed telecommunications Services bid would go unanswered except by Sierra Telephone.
2. Long Distance Services: Our long distance request has been under a contract with Sierra Telephone Long Distance. The contract Contract start date was 7-01-01, and the expiration date is 6-30-04. Therefore a Form 470 was not required
3. Internet Access: Our Internet service is accessed by our T-1 and the service is provided through Madera County Office Of Education, which is our main district office over all of Madera County. This is mandatory to meet our requirement of CLPA. Once again, the T-1 is a tar riffed item and is only available through Sierra Telephone.

We hope that you will waive the 28 day waiting period. We are a small school, with a very tight budget. Our students would benefit tremendously if this waiver were granted. Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Please call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
Tom Allcock  
Superintendent